

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SS-15 NSC-05 /062 W

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R 121229Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6091

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

S E C R E T THE HAGUE 3000

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, NL, UK

SUBJ: NETHERLANDS AMPHIBIOUS LIFT CAPABILITIES

REF: USNATO 3060

1. NETHERLANDS NAVY AMPHIBIOUS LIFT CAPABILITY LIMITED TO TWELVE SMALL PERSONNEL LANDING CRAFT AND A FEW RUBBER ASSAULT BOATS WHICH AT BEST COULD MOUNT COMPANY SIZE RAID. THEREFORE, DUTCH MARINE CORPS HAS INDEED BEEN COUNTING ON BRITISH FOR TRANSPORT IN ANY AMPHIBIOUS OPERATION.

2. DURING DECEMBER OF 1974, JUST PRIOR TO PUBLICATION OF WHITE PAPER, BRIGADIER EPHRAUMS OF THE BRITISH MARINE CORPS VISITED THE HAGUE AND ASSURED THE DUTCH THAT ANY REDUCTIONS WOULD BE PHASED OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS. HE
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SAID THAT FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, I.E. FIVE TO TEN YEARS, THE BRITISH WOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE ADEQUATE SUPPORT TO DUTCH BUT DID ADMIT THAT IN THE LONGER TERM, THEY MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO DO SO.

3. MAJOR GENERAL A.C. LAMMERS, COMMANDANT OF THE DUTCH MARINE CORPS, IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE BRITISH REDUCTION PLANS AND HAS EXPRESSED THE CONCERN TO US. HE HAS INTIMATED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE U.S. SUPPORT FOR AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, HE DOES NOT WISH TO MAKE A FORMAL REQUEST FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE FOR FEAR OF EMBARRASSING THE BRITISH. THE DUTCH MARINE CORPS AMPHIBIOUS COMBAT GROUPS ARE INTEGRATED WITH AND ARE UNDER DIRECT COMMAND OF BRITISH UNDE CURRENT NATO AGREEMENTS. WORKING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COPRS HAVE BEEN EXCELLENT AND LAMMERS DOES NOT WANT TO JEOPARDIZE THE PRESENT GOOD RAPPORT. GOULD

SECRET

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06 JUL 2006

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To: STATE INFO SECDEF
LONDON
OSLO
NATO
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

Type: TE

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